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Economic Development Forum on Dec. 7 to Convene Central Ohio Leaders

(Columbus – November 14, 2012) The Mid-Ohio Development Exchange (MODE) in partnership with Columbus 2020 and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) is coming together for the first time to host an economic development forum for local officials on December 7, 2012 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at The Ohio Union at The Ohio State University.

The half-day event called ED411 is designed in the theme of 411 directories that provide easy and fast access to information and resources in a community. For this event, the sponsors are bringing together local, state and national speakers to discuss the impacts of private investments in our region, how company investment decisions are made, and what resources are available to help companies grow and prosper in the region.

The ED411 program includes notable state and national speakers: Christiane Schmenk, Director of Ohio Development Services Agency; Jeff Finkle, President and CEO, International Economic Development Council; and William Fruth, President of POLICOM Corporation and a nationally recognized speaker on creating prospering local economies and communities.

Expected attendees at the forum include local government officials such as county commissioners, mayors, municipal council members and township trustees. The forum sponsors are also promoting the event to school superintendents and school board members.

To register for ED411, visit *columbusregion.com/ed411*. For questions or comments, please contact Stephanie Bosco at <u>sb@columbusregion.com</u> or 614-225-6935.